2nd November 1935]

dated 9th December 1931, prescribing additional registration fees in the case of lengthy documents occupying more than two pages in the register. A copy [a] of the notification is annexed.

(c) The levy of the fee was made to meet the extra work involved in copying lengthy documents.

UNSTARRED QUESTION

Police

Alleged entry of the Police into the house of one Santhana Kudumban of Vadugapatti village, Madura district.

425 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur R. SRINIVASAN: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether, in connexion with a complaint of theft on the 18th March 1935 in Vadugapatti village, Madura district, against one Thangarazu, son of Santhana Kudumban, the Police entered the house of Santhana Kudumban, removed paddy stored there and beat Santhana Kudumban and his children;

(b) whether it is a fact that Santhana Kudumban and his children were ill when the Police entered his house and beat them; and

(c) if the answer is in the affirmative, what steps the Government took with regard to this action of the Police?

A.—(a) It is a fact that the police entered the house of Santhana Kudumban in connexion with a complaint of theft on the 18th March 1935 in Vadugapatti village and seized some paddy suspected to have been stolen, but neither he nor his children were beaten by the police. The paddy seized having been found on examination, to be of a different kind to that stolen was immediately returned to the owner.

(b) Santhana Kudumban was seriously ill at the time of the search but his children were not ill.

(c) The conduct of the police not being improper, the question of taking action against them does not arise.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

III.—A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS ESTATES LAND ACT, 1908 (BILL No. 2 OF 1935).

Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—" Sir, I thank the Government first of all for having given the House an opportunity to discuss this * motion on a non-official Bill, on an official day. Of course it will be

* The motion to refer the above Bill to a Select Committee was discussed in part on 8th August 1935 and the further consideration thereof was adjourned to this meeting.

a Printed as Appendix VII on page 509 infra.

remembered that last time there was some discussion on it; a conference later met and came to some agreement outside. If the Bill is now referred to a Select Committee, the report may be submitted in a very short time, and it may be convenient to have this Bill passed at this sitting. That is the object with which this motion is made now on an official day.

" I have to say one word with regard to the list of members proposed for the Select Committee. There were twelve persons selected as members of the conference, and it is considered desirable that they should be also on the Select Committee. That is the reason why some changes have been made in the list and a new list has been drawn up. So, I will now, with the leave of the House, withdraw the motion moved by me on 8th August 1935."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—" Sir, under Standing Order No. 39 (2) I now move that the Bill to amend the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908 (Bill No. 2 of 1935), be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following members:—

1. The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter.
2. Sir Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar.
3. Mr. G. T. Boag.
4. The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili.
5. The Kumararaja of Venkatagiri.
6. The Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
7. The Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur.
8. The Raja of Khallikote.
9. Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari.
10. Dr. P. Subbarayan.
11. Mr. P. Peddi Raju.
12. Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar.
13. Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
14. Rao Bahadur T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai.
15. Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi.
16. Mr. M. S. Sreshta.
17. Mr. K. P. Raman Menon.
18. Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
19. The Mover.

11-30 a.m. " Sir, I wish to say one word about the number of members of the Select Committee. As the number is larger than the number permissible under the Standing Orders, I request your permission under Standing Order No. 39 (2) to increase the number to 19."

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—" I beg to second the motion, Sir."

The motion was put and carried.

2nd November 1935]

Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—"I move that it be a direction to the Select Committee to submit the report on or before the 6th of this month."

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I beg to second that motion, Sir."

The motion was carried.

IV.—MOTION *RE* SECOND REPORT OF THE MADRAS DELIMITATION COMMITTEE—*cont.*

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Discussion on the Madras Delimitation Committee's second report will continue."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, yesterday I was dealing with . . . ."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"May I point out to Mr. Pocker that the time is short and we have to complete the debate before 1-30 p.m. to-day. We must also give an opportunity to the Hon. the Finance Member or his Secretary to make his reply if he is willing to do so. As the hon. Member has already taken a sufficiently long time yesterday, I hope he will finish his speech soon to-day."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"I will be very brief, Mr. President. Sir, my justification for taking some time yesterday was due to the fact that the Mappillas were dealt with in a way in which they should not be dealt with by an hon. Member on an amendment regarding this matter. Anyhow, I do not wish to stand in the way of other hon. Members participating in the discussions as regards the various other matters connected with the subject. I was pointing out yesterday, how the Mappillas were of greater political importance in this country than the Mussalmans of the East Coast on the ground that they are an absolute necessity for the defence of the country. If the question of political importance is to be looked at, from the historical point of view too, the Mappillas have their own chief in the person of the Arakkal Raja and until recently he was ruling the Laccadive Islands and it was only quite recently that it was taken from him. From whatever point of view the question is looked at, it cannot be said that political importance is the monopoly of the East Coast Mussalmans and that the Mappillas have no importance at all. As a matter of fact from the point of view of the administration of the country itself, they are an absolute necessity and of greater importance.

"Another reason given by the Committee for taking away the seat is this: 'the distribution of the Muslim population should not form the only consideration in the formation of constituencies. Since the weightage is given to the Muslims as a minority community it should benefit the community in districts where they constitute a small minority rather than in districts where they are a large minority.' I submit, Sir, this is a great fallacy. Weightage is given to the whole Presidency for the whole community. The Communal Award does not say anything to warrant the inference which the Delimitation